

ISCCW BOARD MEETING

Approved - OCTOBER 16, 2012

USFS CONFERENCE ROOM, WATERSMEET, MICHIGAN

Board Members Present: Joe LoMastro, Army Domanus, Robert Zelinski, Jim Floriano, Jeff Pytlarz, Bill Rehling, Renee Shurr, Steve Wilkinson, Ken Wendt, Dudley Pierce, Margaret Marrs.

Visitors: Eric Bacon, (Environmental Quality Analyst, DEQ-WRD Permits Section), Lisa Huberty, (DEQ, Water Resources Division, Permits Section, Aquatic Nuisance Control Program), Daniel M. Straszewski, Sandra Butelewski, Dave Lamoreaux (LVDLA), Frank Kuchevar, Bill Artwich, Barb Gajewski, Kristi Pottala-Pierce, Jack Erhart (CCROA rep).

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 A.M. by President Dudley Pierce.

1. President's Report: In the absence of the Educator's Report, Mr. Pierce reported that, as of September 1, 2012, there were 2,082 contacts made, 638 boat washes; and together with the Forest Service, 4,200 contacts made, 800 boat washes. There were three musky tournaments in September at which 17 boats were washed. Mr. Pierce also reported a breakout of EWM near Thunder Bay on Lac Vieux Desert and said the lake association is considering spot treating. The problem of possible drifting of treatment over to the rice beds on the Michigan side of the lake has not been addressed to his knowledge. The LVD Tribe has been historically opposed to any chemical treatments in their tribal areas due to the possibility that spring treatments could be highly damaging to rice beds, autumn treatments can possibly be less damaging. The State of Wisconsin only allows for spring treatments. DEQ said that they would talk to their superiors and see if the Attorney General would make a ruling on this and/or talk to Wisconsin officials. The Courts will probably have to rule on the issue. (Note: Pertinent to this matter, later in the meeting, Lisa Huberty said she and Eric Bacon of the MDEQ will send up the "chain" in a MDEQ memo stating that expeditious conversations need to be had between WDNR, WDEQ and MDNR. MDEQ regarding the redress of 2-4-D treatment of by the WDNR.
2. Vice-President's Report: Ken Wendt said further boat numbers will be reported in November. Mr. Wendt requested all volunteers time reports are needed for the "In-Kind Donation" filing. When asked, Joe LoMastro said the boat washers have been winterized and stored. Mr. LoMastro said if we get a third boat washer, Marv will consider coming back as an employee.
3. Treasurer's Report: Steve Wilkinson reported that as of September 17, 2012 we had a Bank Balance of \$75,962.48, with receipts of \$13,301.30 and disbursements of \$7,738.23 in the past month our Bank Balance as of October 16, 2012 is now \$81,525.55. Form 990-EZ for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 has been filed with the IRS, and showed the following major items: Total revenue = \$68,786; Total expenses = \$58,185; Net assets = \$97,030.
4. Finance Committee Report: Mr. Wendt reported that Mr. Ian Shackelford (USFS) said the RAC fund request for ISCCW/Langford Lake was finalized by the Forest Service equaling

\$10,000. Mr. Wendt also reported that the CPA in Marquette, MI, who is working on the IRS issue, is fairly confident that ISCCW will receive a 530 exemption approval which means that ISCCW won't have to go back and redo the last five years' payroll reports.

5. Education/PR Committee: Bill Rehling stated, due to members being out of town for the October meeting, the committee will be meeting in November and will report at the next board meeting. Mr. Wendt said Hahn Printing has a new line of T-Shirts and caps that might work for the Committee.
6. Membership Committee Report: Diana Mehlhop was absent, but sent in her report: as of October 16 there are a total of 430 members of ISCCW reflecting donations paid through 12/31/2012 of \$28,325.00 and donations paid through 12/31/2013 of \$6,920.00. She asked Board members to send in their renewals to save postage.
7. Biologists' Report: Bill Artwich surveyed Thousand Island Lake 9/25-9/27 giving the following report: the northern portion of the lake has EWM, also passages to the south show presence of EWM; Wilderness Bay has a handful of plants; areas treated in the Spring still have EWM including the boat launch; the channel to Lindsley and Cisco Bill couldn't survey because of heavy fishing pressure. On 9/28 more EWM plant were found in Crooked Lake after Ian Shackelford had snorkeled and pulled 13 plants. Also, the northern half of Palmers Bay has a large algae bloom making it hard to see, found 1 plant. On 9/30 the following report: Beaton's Lake had no AIS at this time, water quality great. Mr. Artwich added that the USFS has dropped some fish structures made of trees. Additionally, Dave Lamoreaux reported that LVD contracted with Onterra Group to redo the LVD survey work that ISCCW has already done. And lastly, Mr. Artwich reported that Rob Anderson wants to sit down with the Tribal Council and ISCCW to work out a plan for LVD.
Barb Gajewski reported she sent an email (not representing ISCCW) to Ted Ritter suggesting reconsideration of LVD treatment because of the rice beds. Mr. Wendt speculated that the Tribal Council may bring forth a lawsuit to halt the treatment of LVD unless their concerns are addressed. Barb continued, regarding Bass Lake: treatment not very good due to 50-69% winds making it difficult. There is EWM throughout the lake, not on the surfaces, but in another two years it may look like two years ago. She suggested that we are beyond spot treatments and that full lake treatment will be needed. Clearwater Lake: same as Bass Lake, out of the spot treatment phase, suggested full lake treatment. Cisco Lake boat landing: found northern milfoil, not EWM. Barb reported that her classes with Watersmeet High School Environmental Science Class on streams went well. Students knew how to identify EWM and she received good response from students. They may be some budding interest in following this path in higher studies. Ms. Gajewski said she is at her budget limits with no money left over.
8. Educator/Coordinator Report: Mr. Wendt gave the report during his V.P. report. (Please refer back)
9. Approval of September, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes: Ken Wendt moved to approve the changes made by Ian Shackelford in "Public Comments" of a report of "pulling 2 plants to 16 plants". Under Educator/Coordinator Report delete a request "for a boat washer on Duck Lake for 9/22 fishing tournament". Jeff Pytlarz requested a change in 13A. To reflect...

“DNR/DEQ could help our endeavors to control invasive species”..... Motion to approve the September 2012 Minutes was approved unanimously.

10. Public Comments: Ian Shackelford USFS sent in the following: (1) On October 2, after receiving Bill Artwich’s report of more EW milfoil in Crooked Lake, I snorkeled and pulled 13 EWM plants, from the same locations near the boat access and recent observations and pulling. (2) John Skogerboe emailed me Monday and said he would finish writing up the Langford Lake survey results this week. This is the key remaining item needed to complete the Langford Lake Management Plan. (3) I’m still working the one WePIC Memorandum of Understanding. I’ll request another WePIC meeting in the spring. (4) As of Monday, the Forest Service has not yet approved the Gogebic RAC recommendations. (5) Lauren Romstad from the Watersmeet Ranger District surveyed Cooks Run and recorded GPS locations downstream from Bill Artwich’s discovery last year.

11. Agenda Changes/Agenda Approval: A motion was made to change the order of Old Business to the following:

- A. Request from Citizen’s Advisory Council (DNR);
- B. Fund Raising;
- C. Pontoon donation.

Under New Business to the following:

- A. 2013 Budget (Preliminary);
- B. fund Raising Committee proposal;
- C. Boat washer proposal;
- D. MDEQ Presentation (Lisa Huberty and Eric Bacon).

Arne Domanus moved to so approve, Jeff Pytlarz seconded, motion unanimously approved.

12. Old Business:

A. Citizens’ Advisory Council (DNR): Jeff Pytlarz restated that he continues to pursue, on behalf of ISCCW the following: DNR funding, as well as DEQ waiver of permit fees. He said that Senator Casperson claimed the DNR Trust Fund has reached its limit of land purchase but he may be able to find funds in the future for surveying and treating AIS. Mr. Pytlarz said he will attend the Citizens’ Advisory Council of the DNR (CAC) next month. Barb Gajewski said she would have the report of surveys for autumn treatment ready for the CAC meeting November 10. She said she would recommend liquid 2-4-D because it is cost effective.

B. Fund Raising: Ken said that the State should set up a “segregated fund”, which would not be funneled back into the “general fund”, and those funds would come from a percentage of the gas tax calculated by a usage formula much as Wisconsin does. He also said they could consider a small percentage of the boat license and/or fishing license fees. Mr. Pytlarz commented that the State already puts a portion of the gas tax in to a snowmobile fund for snowmobile trails, but not to maintain them as ATV trails. He felt that there should be an avenue to get monies similarly for AIS uses.

C. Pontoon Donation: Jim Floriano stated that the pontoon is too small for groups doing education sessions. It also had no trailer and soft spots in the floor. Although, it was a generous offer to donate the craft, he recommended ISCCW not take the donation. A motion was made by Jeff Pytlarz to respectfully decline the boat donation, it was seconded by Ken Wendt, and motion passed unanimously.

13. New Business:

- A. 2013 Budget (preliminary): Ken Wendt requested that to prepare the 2013 Budget, Biologists need to give their input and all committees should prepare their needs. He also requested ideas by email that would be addressed in that budget. December will have the finalized budget prepared.
- B. Fund Raising Committee: A request for a committee to undertake fund raising through grant opportunities and by approaching other pertinent organizations for funding opportunities; current grants will expire and with full lake treatments anticipated on Bass Lake and Langford Lake, funding is a concern. Additionally, ISCCW is not sure what fund amounts CCROA will be able to dedicate to costs we incur.
- C. Boat Washer Proposal: Ted Ritter (Vilas County AIS Coordinator) has a proposal to hire watercraft inspectors from ISCCW. LVD will purchase a boat washer with grant money they received. Further discussion will be held on November 5 at LVD and all are welcome to attend. WDNR and Wisconsin Clean Boats Clean Waters rules must be followed. Ken added we already honor Wisconsin CBCW rules. Mr. Wendt said this item will be brought up again on the November Agenda.
- D. MDEQ Presentation by Lisa Huberty and Eric Bacon: The presentation addressed the “new” invasive Starry Stonewort. The problems of macro algae in the U.P. can be viewed as an emerging issue that can be responded to and successfully retarded in emerging amounts. However, there are a lot of unknowns about Starry Stonewort. At this time, there are no third party companies that either manage or eradicate Starry Stonewort. Both management and treatment are difficult in this current vacuum of information about its ecology and impact. Starry Stonewort can form a dense pillow and can grow to 5 ft. – 7 ft. in height, and be approximately 1 inch below the surface. It can grow in 0 ft. – 5 ft. depths of water, but also in 10 ft. depths. The starry “flower” is vegetative and reproduces. It also has dark red nodes, oocytes that reproduce. It is native to Asia and Eurasia, was rediscovered in Japan and Germany after it was thought to have disappeared. To date, treating with copper sulfate, a very costly prospect, is not a solution. It only gives a “haircut” to a mat of Starry Stonewort. Harvesting has been abandoned because the harvesters become bogged down. Thus far, evidence of Starry Stonewort is seen in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, but there are sites as far as the Mackinaw Bridge area.

14. Adjournment: Adjournment was at 11:45 with a continuous informal discussion with the DEQ representatives to continue afterwards.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Marrs, Acting Secretary